MATWATCH

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

ROCKERS WIN WWF TAG TEAM TITLE

From MATWATCH Staff Reports

Sean Michaels and Marty Jannetty won the World Wrestling Federation tag team championship from the Hart Foundation Tuesday night.

The match, taped for airing on the Nov. 24 SATURDAY NIGHT'S MAIN EVENT on NBC, was a 2-out-of-3 fall contest.

Michaels pinned Bret Hart in the third fall to capture the belts. The Rockers add the WWF belts to their previous reign as AWA world tag team champions.

HERD MEETS WITH SAITO, BABA TUESDAY

ATLANTA---World Championship Wrestling, Inc., senior vice president Jim Herd was scheduled for meetings with New Japan booker Masanori Saito and All Japan owner Shohei Baba Tuesday.

The meeting had a multiple purpose, according to Herd. "We're trying to work out an equitable schedule to get be able to finish angles with guys that work with both entities," said Herd in his Atlanta office.

In addition, New Japan turned down an offer to work with the WWF for the March 21 Tokyo Dome show and the Oriental group appears ready to strike a deal with WCW for a joint card.

WRESTLE WAR COULD HEAD FOR PHOENIX

PHOENIX AZ----According to coliseum officials, World Championship Wrestling's WRESTLE WAR '91 may be headed here Feb. 24.

WCW had reportedly considered Kemper Arena in Kansas City for WW'91 but managers there say the NWA only wanted to schedule two shows at the facility against eleven for the WWF.

Since Turner Broadcasting System bought majority interest in the NWA in 1989, no WCW card has been held in Phoenix, which does offer NWA wrestling in local syndication. WW'91 would have a 7 p.m. (EST) start.

End of an Era

JIM CORNETTE QUITS NWA; STAN LANE JOINS HIM

By STEVE BEVERLY
MATWATCH Editor/Publisher

Following months of discontent with the direction of his career and his tag team, Jim Cornette quit World Championship Wrestling, Inc., last Tuesday night and half of Cornette's Midnight Express team, Stan Lane, followed suit. The final straw came after an argument at Atlanta's Center Stage with WCW booker Ole Anderson.

Bobby Eaton, the other half of the Midnights team, with extensive financial obligations, intends to stay through his May 15 contract expiration.

Reached by telephone at his Charlotte home Thursday night, Cornette said the blowup, vaguely reminiscent of last year's Ric Flair-Paul E. Dangerously split at Center Stage, was a culmination of six months of what he felt was declining emphasis on the Midnights---still arguably considered among the top three tag teams in the world, confusion with the WCW front office over TV assignments for the team and a dispute over recent $500 fines against Eaton and Lane.

DEMOLITION QUITS WWF DEC. 3

Former three-time WWF tag champions Demolition (Bill Eadie and Barry Darson) are leaving Titan Sports. See Page 2 for the story.

From a phone in a Philadelphia train station, WCW executive vice president Jim Herd told MATWATCH: "I can't tell you a whole lot because I wasn't there. But I understand he (Cornette) and Ole had a misunderstanding and I don't know if they've had other misunderstandings," said Herd. "Some time ago, he complained about being number one on the (HALLOWEEN HAVOC) card and I told him it was archaic thinking that being in the opener was a lesser spot because it's just as important to get a show off to a good start as it is to end it."

Herd added: "Our last conversation was when I granted an okay for them to wrestle for a benefit in Pennsylvania (Nov. 10). I assume they'll make that date. We will talk to Bobby and ask him what he wants to do." Asked if the resignations of Cornette and Lane were irrevocable in his mind, Herd told MATWATCH: "You would be correct in saying we want Bobby Eaton, we want Stan Lane and we want Cornette and we're willing to sit down and talk with them."

Cornette's spirits were upbeat two nights after the split. "Kelly (Cornette's wife) has been after me to do this for eight months," said the NWA veteran. "I've been real dissatisfied with the direction the wrestling business has taken as a whole and other than our matches, which we've enjoyed, it hasn't been much fun. I've been at this almost non-stop for eight years and it's time to back away from it for a while."

A good friend of Cornette's said, "Jim's just plain burned out." Cornette was angered over a schedule at Tuesday night's WCW tapings which had the Midnights working three matches after being asked to go to Anderson, S.C., the night before and only Lane was scheduled in a lone single match for TV. The same friend commented, "If Jim wasn't so tired and frustrated, he'd have never been upset over being booked three times in a night. The Midnights have done that many times."

Cornette partially acknowledged that but felt WCW did not appreciate the contributions of the Midnights over their five-year stint in with Jim Crockett and Turner Broadcasting. "Night after night, Stan and Bobby have gone out and

(Continued on Page 2)

CORNETTE QUITS

(Continued from Page 1)

worked 30 minutes when the main event people couldn't go but ten and they've been glad to do it because they knew they could. And what kind of thanks do they get? They get fined for not making a TV date that nobody in the Atlanta office bothered to let them know they were supposed to make. The Iron Sheik only shows up when he knows he's going over and Bobby and Stan get fined."

Cornette, a supporter of Anderson's when he took over as booker in May, does not blame the 48-year-old matchmaker for the entire situation. "He's frustrated just like every combination of bookers we've had here," said Cornette, "but it was obvious where he was going with us. We had the U.S. tag team belts and then he booked us in a bunch of non-title matches and had us do jobs something like 22 times while we were champions. The night we lost the belts (at the Meadowlands to the Steiners), they told us 45 minutes before the match we were dropping them. I told them, 'We'll do it but you'd think we'd be given enough professional courtesy to have been told at least a couple of days ago.'"

Changes in WCW's supercard presentations have been a sore spot with Cornette. He detested the extensive costuming for HALLOWEEN HAVOC. Further, he believes both the WWF and WCW have exposed the inside of the industry too much to casual fans and cites that as a reason for declining crowds and TV ratings, in addition to TV oversaturation. It's one reason he is not interested in seeking a move to Titan Sports. One industry analyst, who prefers to remain anonymous, says Cornette has had a hard time adapting to the evolution of the industry: "Jim's one of the greatest talents in wrestling. But he honestly believes you can still make wrestling like it was in Louisiana in 1984 and those days are long gone."

Another source of friction was a recent incident in Altoona PA when the office reprimanded Cornette for retaliating against a fan who had jumped a rail to get at him. Cornette blamed it on inadequate security but one WCW official labeled Cornette a "troublemaker" for the incident.

The Louisville native has been frustrated over rejection or dilution of several program ideas for the Midnights, some his own. A planned Steiners-Midnights extended series for TV was short-circuited. As part of the now-aborted skein with the Southern Boys, Cornette wanted to do a tar-and-feather angle, which he says was canned. He refused a proposed HAVOC angle where he would be bashed in the head with a pumpkin. Cornette also disagreed with the framework of the upcoming series, which would have pitted him in six-man tag matches with the Midnights against El Gigante and combinations of either the Southerns or Tommy Rich and Ricky Morton. "Except for the match last year with Paul E. at the Bash, I haven't worked in two years and then, they gave me three months' notice to get in shape. We get the booking sheets for November and find out we're wrestling in these six-mans with the giant even before the CLASH on November 20th. And we're giving that one away for free instead of at STARRCADE."

As for last Tuesday at the Center Stage, Cornette tells a story of entering a room where Anderson and other WCW personnel were and Anderson was on the phone. Cornette, in his words, challenged the three-match schedule. "I came in yelling. Ole got off the phone and I blew up," said Cornette. "Then he turned his back to me and began talking to Bobby, as if he was ignoring me, so I grabbed him by the arm and whirled him around so he'd have to face me. We argued back and forth and then Ole finally said, 'If you don't like it, you can pack your bags.' I said, 'That's a great idea!' And I walked out. Stan was out in the hall and saw me and said, 'Where are you going?' I said, 'I'm going home.' He thought I was kidding and then he realized I wasn't. I told him what happened and he said, 'Screw these people.' And he decided to leave, too. Stan had been planning to quit for a while."

Cornette says there's no ill feelings toward Eaton for staying. "Stan and I are in better financial shape. Bobby told us, 'Guys, I can't afford to leave now.' Bobby's the best friend I have and he has a family to support and I couldn't ask him to walk out on the rest of his contract." Eaton has told WCW he won't work with another manager or team with someone else as "The New Midnight Express."

The man who once said Bush and Quayle remind him of "a companion magazine to Field and Stream" is upbeat about his future. "I'm going to take some time off and get my video tapes sorted and be a husband to Kelly until she realizes how much time she's going to have me around the house." Depending on Eaton's status with WCW in May, Cornette expects the M Ex to reunite and likely work indie dates and Japan.

After Christmas, Cornette has some personal business plans he isn't publicly revealing. As for now, his answering machine tells the tale: "I'm looking over my new travel catalogues for the extended vacation I'm about to take."

DEMOLITION BIDS ADIEU TO VINCE DEC. 3

GREENWICH CT----Three-time WWF world tag team champions Demolition (Bill Eadie and Barry Darsow) are leaving Titan Sports, effective Dec. 3, according to informed sources.

Until early last week, Eadie was on a direct line for a front office job with Titan. But after a meeting on upcoming plans for Demolition's program with the Legion of Doom (Road Warriors), Eadie (Ax) and Darsow (Smash) were disenchanted and decided to sign with Antonio Inoki's New Japan group rather than go along with unspecified demands. Eadie and Darsow will premiere in Japan in mid-December.

Sources close to the WWF say Eadie, in particular, and Darsow are angry over the intense focus McMahon has put on the Road Warriors, which led to a decision to mask Demolition and can their ring music to cool the popular heel team. Insiders say Eadie felt the heel turn of Demolition before SUMMER SLAM '90 diluted the duo's merchandise potential.

Brian Adams (Crush) reportedly is not part of the decision but sources have told MATWATCH Adams would probably not be referred to as a Demolition if he remains with Titan.

Since McMahon's 1984 expansion, Eadie and Darsow are the only team to hold the WWF tag team title on three occasions.

World Championship Wrestling executive vice president Jim Herd was asked Thursday if WCW would have any interest in Demolition. "We will not talk to anyone from the WWF without a written release from Titan Sports," Herd told MATWATCH.

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TV TEMPO

Oct. 29-Nov. 4

(WWF/SYND.) - [SUPERSTARS]: Bushwackers d. Bob Bradley/Spike Jones; (UPDATE) Recap of BRO. LUV-Jake Roberts seg as Martel slaps blinded Jake but Roberts DDTs Bruce; Sgt. Slaughter d. Warren Bianchi; (BRO. LUV) Bobby Heenan apologizes for insulting Bossman's mom; (10-MIN. MATCH) Dustin Rhodes draw vs. Ted DiBiase but Ted knees Dusty out after, then bashes Dustin w. Million $ belt before Dusty chases heels w. chair; Other winner: Curt Hennig. RESTHOLD-PLUS. [CHALLENGE]: Bossman d. Mark Bennett; Dino Bravo d. Randy Jackson; Davey Boy Smith d. Pez Whatley; Nikoli Volkoff d. Tom Burton; Warlord d. Scott Colton; Bushwackers d. Rhythm & Blues. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(PRO WRESTLING '90) - Steve Lawler d. Randy Rose; (LPWA) Bad, Black & Beautiful d. Mighty Mites; (CLASSIC/From SCW) Jerry Lawler d. Tommy Rich on reversal; Bugman Michaels d. Alladdin; (INTL) Jonathan Holliday d. Joe DeFossee; Nick Busich d. Joel Deaton by DQ. RESTHOLD.

(NWA/SYND.) - [WORLD WIDE]: Steiners d. Johnny B. Goode/Paul Lee; Sid Vicious d. Rob Morgan; (HAVOC REPORT/same on NWA PRO) 1) Sting-Black Scorpion magic angle; 2) Nasty Boys attack Scott Steiner w. Coke crate; Terry Taylor d. Tony Burton; Master Blasters d. John Earnest/Scott Allen; Lex Luger d. Rip Rogers w. Paul E. taking ringside pics; (WRAPUP) Paul E. hires Motor City Madman in pool hall to take care of Luger; The Two Horsemen d. Joe Barrett/Italian Stallion. BOMB-PLUS. [NWA PRO]: Rock & Rich Express d. Jim Corbett/Pat Rose; Nasties d. Reno Riggins/Rock Hard Rick; Junkyard Dog d. Mike Samples; (NWA TV TITLE) Arn Anderson d. Allen Iron Eagle; Butch Reed d. Tommy Angel; Sting d. Mike Drago; [DANGER ZONE] Paul E./MC Madman in pool hall. RESTHOLD.

(USWA/SYND.) - [CHALLENGE]: (USWA TOURNEY/SECOND ROUND) Dick Murdoch d. Samurai; Jerry Lawler d. Mark Callous by DQ; Dick Slater d. Jeff Gaylord; Eddie Gilbert d. Jeff Jarrett by coin toss after draw. DRAW.
[BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP]: Sheik Hussein/Lou Fabiano d. Ken Raper/T.D. Steel; (VIDEO) Jarrett-Gilbert studio brawl; Bill Dundee d. Fabiano when Internationals run in; Danny Davis/Brickhouse Brown d. Twilight Zone. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(LPWA) - Magnificent Mimi d. The Cat; Locomotion d. Nasty Girls; Susan Sexton d. Jan Flame. BOMB-PLUS.

(ICW) - Midnight Rockers d. Maxx Brothers; Kerry Von Erich d. Missing Link; Bulldog Brower d. Flying Eddie Dean; Soul Patrol d. Dirty White Boys; Other winner: Al A. Baster. DOUBLE BOMB.

(USWA/WMC) - Lawler d. Joey Maggs but Maggs gets heelish and Danny Davis reprimands him; (Mid-SOUTH) {SOUTHERN TITLE} Eddie Gilbert d. Jeff Jarrett when Eddie burns Jeff during ref bump; (6-MAN) Internationals d. Ben Jordan/Todd Morton/Freezer Thompson; (ANGLE) As Tojo insults Bill Dundee & Tessa, Jamie Dundee ambushes Fabiano w. 1x12 and Chris Champion, Bill & Jamie chase Internationals; (Mid-SOUTH) Brickhouse/Icy Hot no contest vs. Tony & Kim Anthony. Icy, Kim catfight when Doug Gilbert runs in & Doug & Tony piledrive Icy; (USWA TOURNEY) Lawler d. Terry Funk by DQ when Funk piledrives two refs & Eddie runs in for the 2 to piledrive Lawler; (VIDEO) Terry tells story of Red Dog & says Lawler is just like the dog; (ANGLE) Heels show w. silly string, party hats to celebrate Eddie's coronation as new King of Memphis wrestling until Eddie Marlin runs them out; Champion d. Eddie by count-out while Eddie celebrates; (ANGLE) Brickhouse jumps Anthony at desk but Doug Gilbert ambushes Brick w. chair until Davis saves; (USWA TAG TITLE) Nightmares (who teamed when Ken Wayne assured Davis he could be trusted) no contest vs. Anthony/Doug Gilbert when Davis decked Wayne after Ken avoided tags. The 3 heels gang on Davis until Brick runs in but Doug chairs him again & Kim slaps Brick until Brick's sister Sweet Georgia Brown saves; (Mid-SOUTH ANGLE): Eddie & Sam Lowe (in masks) bash Lawler's guitar over Tom Nunnery's head; Dundees d. Twilight Zone. POWERSLAM...lots of good angles.

SCALE: PINFALL: - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor. PLUS - Midscale rating.

(NWA/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Freebirds d. Joe Defuria/Dave Perry; (ANGLE) Rock & Rich Ex chase 'Birds after Jimmy Garvin taunts; Rock & Rich d. Dutch Mantel/Barry Horowitz; Vicious d. Mike Williams; Steiners d. Dave Johnson/Lee; (HAVOC REPORT) same as syndication; Luger d. Bob Emery; (LOUISVILLE SLUGGER) Clip of Cornette being shoved on his can after Dennis A. Brent presents WRAPUP award to S. Boys, then Corny puts up $10,000 on MME for M Ex vs. Boys' awards. RESTHOLD. [WCW]: Juicer d. Mark White; (HH REPORT) Same as syndie; Blasters d. Allen/Dave Diamond; (WRAPUP) Gordon w. STARRCADE preview & Steiners video; JYD d. Rocky Gibbs; (SEGMENT) Paul E./MC Madman; Jeff Stone d. Stan Hansen by DQ; Brian Pillman d. Ringlord I; Nasties d. John Peterson/Perry; Brad Armstrong d. Sgt. James Earl Wright; Vicious d. Williams; Rich d. Farouk; (ANGLE) Flair puts up yacht, Rolls & $500,000 vs. shot at NWA world tag titles in coin toss single match at CLASH XIII; Moondog Rex d. Angel; Ricky Morton d. Michael Hayes by DQ when Garvin runs in but Tommy Rich saves & Ricky & Tommy try to break Hayes' leg when Little Richard saves; (CLOSING ANGLE) Rich/Morton taunt 'Birds, who charge ring. As Little Richard gets on apron, El Gigante arrives for his famous chokelift on Rocky. RESTHOLD.
[MAIN EVENT]: (HAVOC REPORT); Vicious d. Pablo Crenshaw; (CLIP) Horowitz/Rex attack Taylor w. bone; Taylor/Rich d. Horowitz/Rex; {DANGER ZONE} Paul E. w. Hansen; Norman d. Tony Burton; ("$10,000" VS. AWARDS) M Ex d. S. Boys when Cornette (who'd been barred earlier) tosses plaque to Bobby, who bashes Smothers when ref distracted. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(WWF/USA) - [PRIME TIME 9/29]: Davey Boy Smith d. Brooklyn Brawler; Dustin Rhodes d. Paul Diamond; (SPEC RPT) Jack Tunney suspends Rick Rude, censures Bobby Heenan & orders Brain to fill Rude's bookings; Orient Express d. Koko B. Ware/Battlecat when Akio Sato hits Koko w. Fuji's cane; Sama Simba d. Bradley; (SNME) Hulk Hogan/Tugboat d. Rhythm & Blues and fend off attack of Bravo/Earthquake after; (BRO. LUV) Jake Roberts revenge angle; Jimmy Snuka d. Haku; Rockers d. Buddy Rose/Kent Carlson; Hennig d. Jackson. DRAW.
[10/5]: {Key Matches} (From SUPERSTARS) Dustin Rhodes draw vs. DiBiase; {From CHALLENGE} 'Wackers d. R&B.

LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Jack Brickhouse/Paul E. Dangerously, HALLOWEEN HAVOC: (JB) "Archeologists have proven wrestling is more than 5000

years old." (PED) "And Gordon Solie has broadcasted for all but three of them." 2. Hawk, WWF-S: "I ain't no Robert Redford and Animal ain't no Tom Cruise." 3. Jim Cornette, HH, on Steve Armstrong's grandfather "Benedict" Armstrong: "He was shaking so bad, he vibrated himself right into the ground like a fencepost." 4. Paul E., HH, on Black Scorpion: "I think he plays Led Zeppelin records backwards." 5. Craig Johnson, USWA, to his doctor: "The thing that disturbs me is I don't know where the bleeding is coming from. Professional wrestling---I know where it comes from. THIS, I don't." 6. Cornette/Paul E.: (JC) "I did some searching into your family tree and found out you were the sap." (PE) "I guess being from Kentucky, your family tree doesn't branch." 7. Terry Funk, WMC, on Red Dog: "Red Dog & Jerry Lawler have 2 things in common---they're weak at heart and they're gutless wonders." 8. Jerry Lawler, WMC: "Eddie Gilbert, somebody ought to introduce your mind to your mouth." 9. Pat Barrett, TO TELL THE TRUTH, on why he was a heel: "I was a nasty kid." 10. Paul E., HH, on Sting: "He has more courage than anyone since Oliver North."

11. Paul E., HH, on Junkyard Dog's mask: "With all the blonde hair, I thought it was Missy Hyatt." 12. Paul E., HH, on 'Birds: "It's like M.C. Hammer and Bon Jovi doing a duet." 13. Cornette, HH, on Smothers coat-of-arms: "A chicken with yellow feathers wearing pantyhose and crossed butter knives." 14. Ross, PH, on Michael Hayes: "I think he got those tights at a Liberace yard sale." 15. Cornette, PH, to S. Boys: "You guys couldn't whip cream with an outboard motor." 16. Brickhouse, HH: "In the early days, we made up names for the holds and the announcers all stole from each other." 17. Dutch Mantel, WWW, on Terry Taylor: "He probably starts forest fires when he goes camping." 18. Mantel, WWW: "The Horsemen are masters of execution. That line will go down with some of Nostradamus' most famous oratories." 19. Downtown Bruno, WMC: "Todd Morton looks like he's been falling out of trees all year and landing on his feet." 20. Tojo Yamamoto, WMC, on Tessa: "She look like booldog."

21. Yamamoto, WMC, on Tessa: "My head sweeter than you face." 22. Lawler, WMC, on Sam Lowe: "We're gonna watch your teeth roll around like Chiclets." 23. Boss Winter, WMC: "Two Dundees at one time is better than Christmas." 24. Sally Jessy Raphael/Paul E., SJR: (SJR) "Paul, you're supposed to convince these people NOT to live out these fantasies." (PED) "Sally, first there was Phil, then there was Oprah. There's Joan Rivers and Geraldo. You went right by all of them, so what are you complaining about?" 25. Gene Okerlund/Gorilla Monsoon, PTW: (GO) "Macho King, many people are saying you are hiding behind her (Sherri's) skirt." (GM) "I think she forgot her skirt." 26. Roddy Piper, PTW, on Buddy Rose: "This is no one to take lightly." 27. Piper, PTW: "One thing good about Rose, he keeps the flies away." 28. Cornette, WCW, on S. Boys: "Nobody would give those punks an award except the Barney Fife Badge of Courage." 29. Missy Hyatt, NME, on Cornette being banned: "I don't think it was verbal abuse. I think it was all that pizza he ate and his breath stunk."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Ross, PH: "I think the DDT is much more popular than the Freebirds." 2. Tony Schiavone, WWW, to Dutch Mantel: "Nobody can look like you."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. Caller/Angel of Death, KFLI: (CALLER) "Who do you think the Black Scorpion is?" (AOD) "Who do YOU think it is?" 2. Cornette, HH, on Smothers: "Why do you think they call him Tracy? His uncle's name is Ethel." 3. Schiavone, WWW, on Mantel calling Stallion "spaghetti-eating champion:" "Was that vermicelli or linguini?" 4. Missy Hyatt, NME: "Look at TOmmy Rich's tights. Did he wash them wrong?"

HYPE AWARD - Solie, WNN: "On a scale of 1 to 10, HALLOWEEN HAVOC would have to rate a 15."

RESTRAINT AWARD - Paul E., HH, for staying silent when Brickhouse began marveling about Verne Gagne.

BEST PICTURES - 1. WMC, Eddie burning Jeff Jarrett. 2. WWF-S, 'Wackers biting Bob Bradley's butt. 3. WMC, Eddie's coronation. 4. SALLY JESSY RAPHAEL, Paul E.'s grinning entrance. 5. WWW, Paul E./Motor City Madman skit. 6. TO TELL THE TRUTH, Pat Barrett hip-tossing Lynn Swann. 7. WMC, Funk choking Lawler w. TV cable.

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. DESIGNATED GOFER (Jim Ross on Little Richard Marley). 2. BENEDICT ARMSTRONG (Cornette on Steve's grandfather). 3. PERSNICKETY LITTLE CURMUDGEON (Paul E. on Dennis A. Brent). 4. JOHN WILKES BOOTH OF THE WWF (Vince McMahon on Randy Savage). 5. ULTIMATE YUPPIE (Mantel on Taylor). 6. WORLD SPAGHETTI-EATING CHAMPION (Mantel on Stallion). 7. ULTIMATE LOSER (Savage on Ult Warrior).

BLOOPER AWARDS - 1. Tony Gilliam, WWW, for calling Rob Morgan "RIP Morgan." 2. Bobby Heenan, PTW: "The GOOD Bossman."

ALL-CLICHE TEAM - 1. Ross, WCW: "...adding insult to injury." 2. Jimmy Garvin, NWA PRO: "...talk is cheap." 3. (tie) Jerry Lawler, Jeff Jarrett, both WMC: "...fight fire with fire."

BOO AWARDS - 1. WMC, for Anthony/Doug Gilbert piledriver of Icy Hott. I've said all there is to say about the women abuse angles. 2. ICW, for their usual crap. 3. WMC, for Downtown Bruno. Listening to him say "it beez that way sometimes" 7 times a show is worse than eating sauerkraut. 4. WLMT, Memphis, for running a USWA rerun instead of second round of USWA tourney.

TUBE TALK

Larry Zbyszko to work UWF tapings Thursday night...THE ORLANDO SENTINEL planning an upcoming feature on wrestling... Our review of the UWF TV shows is postponed until next week. ...Chris & Toni Adams guests on THE LARRY KATZ SHOW Saturday night...Anyone who can drop me NAWA and/or UWF TV results on a postcard will be much appreciated.

On TO TELL THE TRUTH

PAT BARRETT NEARLY STUMPS THE PANEL

LOS ANGELES---Wrestler Pat Barrett and two imposters won $1,500 in a segment of NBC's TO TELL THE TRUTH Oct. 31.

Barrett was featured in a spot on his autobiography EVERY DOWN HERE HATES ME. When panelist Kitty Carlisle asked why Barrett was such a villain, he answered, "I was a nasty kid." Only David Niven Jr. correctly voted for the real Barrett.

After the segment, Barrett demonstrated his mat prowess by lifting and hip-tossing interim TRUTH host Lynn Swann.

BUDGET CUTS: The entire TBS organization is going through mandated budget cuts in ranges estimated by trade magazines from 10-20%. Jim Herd told us Thursday it will not involve cutting major talent in the WCW division. He says it could involve areas such as travel and other internal categories.

HAVOC BUY-RATE: It appears the show will do a 1.3% buy-in of 14.7 million pay-per-view homes, which would be around 191,000 homes and a $4 million gross.

GUEST STAR SPIVEY: Herd said Danny Spivey, who made a cameo at HAVOC, isn't set for a regular WCW schedule but Herd was to talk with Spivey this week. He also says Sting imposter Barry Windham will be back on a regular basis shortly.

EXTRA SPECIAL?: At deadline, this could not be confirmed but word had it the WWF was close to a Nov. 23 prime-time hour on NBC in lieu of the skedded SNME the next night.

HOLLIDAY TIME: Jonathan Holliday, late of Portland, worked as a manager at the WWF TV tapings Tuesday night.

HOGAN'S DEAL: Hulk Hogan has agreed to a predominant three-a-week sked for Titan through the early winter.

NO EGGS FOR MARK: Mark Callous will be the "mystery partner" in one of the SURVIVOR SERIES events but will not be The Eggman as originally reported. Speculation is now centering on everyone from Jacques Rougeau to a masked man.

AND IN MEMPHIS: Craig Johnson was at the Mid-South Coliseum Monday night for the Terry Funk-Jerry Lawler USWA title match. Since Jarrett has not regained the Sportatorium in Dallas yet, the group had to do some new syndication tapes.

DOUBLE DIP: Johnson is returning home base to Washington, D.C., where he's about to be on competing outlets. He'll do a schedule of George Washington University basketball games for Home Team Sports and is on indie Channel 50 with USWA.

INFLATED $$$$???: Gary Hart has said Kevin Von Erich's last show at the Sportatorium drew $4,300 but others say that is a work. One source says at least 175-200 were freebies.

ANGLE OF DEATH: That's what one publication called Dave Sheldon. He guested as the Angel on Norm Hitzges' Dallas-based talk show on KLIF last week. Yep, he played Taps.

MORE GOODIES: Joel Goodhart's WINTER CHALLENGE supercard is scheduled March 2 at the Philadelphia Civic Center. Joel has Greg Valentine, who plans to go back blond after SURVIVOR SERIES, for an early-year date, along with Ronnie Garvin. Expect Cornette and the M Ex work for Joel after mid-May.

IT WASN'T DOC: The buildup Memphis fans thought was Steve Williams as Downtown Bruno's secret weapon wasn't. Instead, Jeff Gaylord lost to Lawler last Monday in the main event. Eddie Gilbert won the Southern title from Jeff Jarrett.

AND IN OTHERS: Bill Dundee and Dick Murdoch defeated the three Internationals in a handicap and Brickhouse Brown and Icy Hott went to a no contest with Tony and Kim Anthony. Chris Champion is back in as himself.

MATWATCHING

WOULD YOU WATCH THIS?: Topliner Thursday night in Tampa: Steve Keirn & ref Mickey Jay beat Ron Slinker and deejay Johnny B. Lyons. Lou Perez won over Mark Starr by DQ when Slinker ran in.

PAUL ON SALLY: Paul E. Dangerously's appearance on SALLY JESSY RAPHAEL was a good crossover for the NWA. Watching Paul stroll in to the strains of "Rocky" was hilarious.

WHO ARE THEY?: No one knows who Magnum Force, the Steiners' opponents at CLASH XIII Nov. 20 are. I'm only told it will be a jobber team.

THE WHOLE CARD: One more time, the rundown on CLASH XIII: Either Ric Flair or Arn Anderson vs. either Butch Reed or Ron Simmons with the NWA world tag titles at stake vs. Flair's "limo & cash;" Sid Vicious vs. Nightstalker; Renegade Warriors vs. Nasty Boys; Lex Luger vs. Motor City Madman (Mike Moore); Star Blazer vs. Mike Rotunda; Tom Zenk vs. Uptown Brian Lee; Brad Armstrong vs. Big Cat Curtis Hughes; and Juicer vs. Buddy Landell.

A FEW OTHERS: Plans are also to show finals "from Africa" of an international elimination for the Dec. 16 STARRCADE tourney with Sgt. Krueger/Col. Dekkerk vs. Kamala & Botswana Beast. The six-man which would have had the Southern Boys/El Gigante vs. Midnights/Cornette will be revamped.

NO OMAHA: The NWA date here originally scheduled the first week in December has been scrubbed.

HOW LONG, ANDRE?: Andre the Giant's skedded return at the January ROYAL RUMBLE is said to be a one-shot but we're told he may well headline some "B" show cards for Titan in winter.

SIGNING PARTY: Nov. 17, Cactus Jack, WOMAN and Larry Zbyszko appear at an autograph show in Islandia NY at Major League Images at Exit 57 off the Long Island Expressway. Admission is $3 with autographs $4 and $5.

NO CRUISER: LPWA has switched to a one-hour format for cable and syndication and Chris Cruise is apparently off the cable shows.

TAPING IN HAMBURG: LPWA had what we're told was a lackluster four-hour taping Thursday in Hamburg PA. Early crowd of 600 was down to about 125 at the end. Boni Blackstone doing two segs: "From Boni's Viewpoint" and "Locker Room Confidential." Baltimore's Larry Katz was ring announcer.

THE TEACHER: The SAN BERNADINO (CA) SUN had an interesting feature on SLAMMERS WRESTLING GYM trainer Bill Anderson in its Oct. 15 edition. Thanks to Bill Laster for it.

CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST TORMENTA

MEXICO CITY---Charges of child trafficking have been dropped against the "Wrestling Priest" Fray Tormenta.

Mexican newspapers report the scam, involving children in Tormenta's orphanage, was masterminded by an accuser and a police officer. Tormenta was cited for not following proper adoption procedures but trafficking charges were removed.

RATINGS RAP

HAVOC INTEREST CARRIES MAIN EVENT TO VICTORY

After several weeks of sagging ratings, curiousity over HALLOWEEN HAVOC finishes carried NWA MAIN EVENT to the top of the Nielsen cable ratings for the week ending Oct. 29.

MAIN EVENT posted a 2.9 rating and 5.1 per cent share of audience Oct. 28, up 25% from the previous week. NME was just ahead of WWF PRIME TIME WRESTLING, which scored a 2.7 rating, up slightly from the Oct. 22 airing.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING posted a 2.6 in its first hour and 2.4 opposite HAVOC's first pay-per-view hour to finish with its second consecutive 2.5.

In its final Friday night outing, POWER HOUR reached a 2.0, to top one million homes for the third straight episode.

A revision from last week's numbers: both PRIME TIME (Oct. 22) and ALL-AMERICAN (Oct. 21) registered 2.6 ratings, down slightly from the 2.8 and 2.7 originally reported but both shows tied for the top for the week ending the 22nd.

Week Ending Oct. 29	Rating	Share	Total Homes
NWA MAIN EVENT (TBS 10/28)	2.9	5.1	1.62 million
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 10/29)	2.7	4.3	1.46 million
NWA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (TBS 10/27)	2.5	5.4	1.40 million
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 10/28)	2.5	6.7	1.35 million
NWA POWER HOUR (TBS 10/26)	2.0	3.5	1.12 million
NWA POWER HOUR (R) (TBS 10/27)	0.8	8.0	448,000

HAVOC/MATWATCH 25 SCALE

ANNOUNCING	4.3	TOTAL PRODUCTION	4.0
QUALITY OF MATCHES	2.5	OVERALL SHOW EXCELLENCE	3.8
CROWD ENTHUSIASM	3.3	TOTAL RATING	17.9

Pinfall Profile

HALLOWEEN HAVOC: THE TV SHOW

Whether it was, as one MATWATCH caller termed, "so hot, I almost burned my hand on the TV," HALLOWEEN HAVOC was a better television show than it appeared on paper.

On the upbeat scale, the lighting was first-rate and the entrances had a quality look with the Halloween motif backdrop with the WCW logo and pumpkins. Keith Mitchell's production team was disciplined in keeping the crowd shots to a minimum and where appropriate.

Two key items to single out on production flair in this show: the isolated replay of the two Stings crossing paths in the aisle and the inspired dropping of the balloons and playing of Sid Vicious' ring music after the imposter finish. Whether hardcores liked the finish, the television aspect of it was well-choreographed.

On the negative side: one glitch came when Missy Hyatt was heard asking the crew how she did after one of her segments, and the entire Black Scorpion-Sting magic angle was shot too wide to gain the effect one had in the arena. For it to have had a better result on TV, more closeups were needed. Also, having attended both the live show and watched the tape, somehow ringside has to be better miked. A persistent problem for WCW has been in capturing the ringside reaction that was so true-to-life at the first CLASH in 1988. The crowd reax was much hotter in the opener than the TV audio reflected. For that reason, we take off a full point on total production. Audio must improve. Also, the balance between Gary Cappetta's ringside mike for calling times and the commentators was too heavy in Cappetta's favor.

The Jack Brickhouse spot, a concession to Chicagoans, was a waste. Brickhouse added nothing and droned as he would during a pitching change at Wrigley Field.

But the real magic came with the announcers. Jim Ross was his well-prepared self, both on backgrounders and description and, in my view, Paul E. Dangerously crossed into a new zone with this show. He was not overly abrasive, disciplined himself to build the matchups and, except when he began to count the falls when Brickhouse was on, matured into a quality color man. During the Renegades-Freebirds match, I felt Ross and Paul E. had developed a rhythm similar to the old Ross-Michael Hayes UWF combo. If allowed to grow, Ross/Paul E. could grow into the best mike duo in the business and they definitely should be reteamed at STARRCADE.

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